sleep by his side, purring like a kitten, though much louder.

One night the young man was awakened by something strange about his throat. When became conscious he found his pet was licking at his throat, slightly pinching at times with its teeth, then lick awhile and pinch a little harder- Thts frightened the young man so thoroughly that he sprang to his feet, dragged it out of doors and dispatched it at once.

JOHN SHARP.

Among the persons settling in what is now Pocahontas County early in the century, John Sharp, Senior, a native of Ireland, is richly deserving of more than passing notice. He is the ancestor of the families of that name that constitute such a marked proportion of the Frost community, and have been identified with that vicinity for the past 91 years. Previous to the Revolution he came in with the tide of Scotch-Irish imigration that spread over Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and thence moved south, and finally located in Rockingham County, Virginia. His wife was Margaret Blaine, whose parents resided in the vicinity of Rawley Springs. She was a relative of Rev. John S. Blaine, one of the pioneer Presbyterian pastors in our countyr

After a residence of several years in Rockingham County, Mr Sharp came to Pocahontas to secure land for the use of his large and industrious family, and he succeeded well, and saw them well fixed in life all

around him. He reached Frost in 1802, and settled on the place now occupied by Abram Sharp. There were six sons and as many daughters. The daughters were Margaret, Anna, Isabella, Elizabeth, Rosa, and Polly. Margaret became Mrs Henry Dilley and lived on Thorny Creek. Anna was married to Daniel McCollam, who finally moved to Ohio. Isabella became Mrs Alexander Rider, who lived so long on the top of the Alleghany, seven miles east of Huntersville. Elizabeth was the wife of Rev James Wanless, a widely known minister, and lived on upper Thorny Creek, where John F. Wanless now resides.

Rosa Sharp was married to the Rev William J. Ryder, on Back Creek. Her family mostly went west—to Illinois. Rev Stewart Ryder, of Bath, is her son. He was for several years an itinerant minister in the Baltimore Conference. Aaron Ryder, who liver near Frost, is another son.

Mary Sharp became the wife of William Hartman, and settled in Upshur County. Her children were Joel Susan, Elizabeth, and Mory. Joel Hartman married Jonathan Yeager's daughter Rachel. Mary Hartman became Mrs Jeter; Susan Hartman became a Mrs Harper, all of Upshur County.

In reference to the six sons that were of this family, and the brothers of the six sisters whose history is so briefly traced, we learn the following particulars from Mrs Elizabeth Sharp, the aged relict of the late John Sharp, a grandson of the pioneer John Sharp. This venerable lady has a remarkable history. Left alone during the war, she supported her young

and numerous family, paid off mortgages on the land, and came through the great trouble out of debt.

The pioneer's sons were John, Robert, Daniel, William, James, and Joseph.

John Sharp married Rebecca Moore, daughter of Pennsylvania John Moore, and settled on land now occupied by Joseph Moore, who is a grandson of John Sharp, Senior.

Robert Sharp died in early youth.

Daniel Sharp married Margaret Palmer, of Augusta County, and settled on Buffalo Mountain, beyond Greenbank. Daniel finally went to Lewis County, and settled on Leading Creek.

James Sharp married Margaret Wanless, and settled on the head of Thorny Creek. There were five sons and two daughters in his family. William, Andrew, Robert, James, and Lindsay were the sons; and Jane, who became Mrs Nicholas Swadely, and Nancy, who married James Moore, now of Nicholas County, were the daughters. Nicholas Swadely moved to Ritchie County. Lindsay Sharp lives on the old homestead. Andrew Sharp lives on Back Creek, and was 97 years of age July 3, 1897. He was able at that time to do considerable work with his axe and brush-hook.

William Sharp married Margaret Nesbitt, of Rockbridge County, and settled near Frost. There were a son and three daughters. Mary Paulina married Stephen Wanless, and lived on Back Creek. Her husband was killed by a vicious horse. Eliza Jane, became Mrs David Hannah, of Fayette County. John Sharp, the one son of this family, married Elizabeth

Slaven Wade, of Highland County, and settled on the place near Frost where his widow now lives. There were five sons and four daughters.

The sons were Charles Osborne Wade, William Alexander Gilmer, John Benjamin Franklin, Aaron Uriah Bradford. Little Bradford died at the age of seven years, his mother's darling, and though many years have passed she weeps at the mention of his name. Matilda Ursula died at sixteen months. Margaret Ann died aged sixteen years. Martha Ellen and Marietta Emmeretta Virginia are yet living.

Gilmer Sharp married Nancy Elizabeth Arbogast, and settled a mile from Frost on the west branch of Knapps Creek, in the pine woods, and opened up a nice home. His family consists of seven sons and two daughters: Upton Porter, William Bradford, Clifton Chalmers, Ernest Gilmer, George Merviu, Charles Letcher, Minnie Ursula, and Nancy Elizabeth Daisy. Minnie is now Mrs Ellis Bussard, near Glade Hill.

J. B. F. Sharp, great-grandson of the pioneer, married Mary Alice Gibson, of Bath, rnd now lives near Frost. Henderson Wickline, Carrie, Bessie, Ellen, and Ruth are their children.

C. O. W. Sharp, another son of the same family, married Amanda Grimes, and settled near Frost. There were six sons and three daughters: Hannibal Hamlin, Charles Hanson, David Franklin, George Winters, Summers Hedrick, Austin John, Trudie Montgomery, Isa Amanda, Esta Medora.

Martha Ellen Sharp, one of the surviving sisters, became the wife of Abram Sharp, near Frost. He was a

Union soldier. Their family consists of six sons and four daughters: Joseph Averill married Sarah Vint and lives on Browns mountain. John Washington married Mary Ann Simmons, of Highland, and lives near Frost. Their sons are Anderson Butler, Stewart Holmes, Aaron Abraham, and Lincoln, who died at the age of four years. The daughters are Julia Quebec, who is Mrs William Shrader and lives near Frost; and Cuba Truxillo, who died December, 1895; greatly lamented; Elizabeth Rachel, and Mary Hannah Susan.

The other surviving member of Mrs Bettie Sharp's family is Marietta Emmeretta Virginia, who married Thomas R. Kellison, and lives near Mountain Grove. Her family of three sons and six daughters are named as follows: John Benjamin Franklin Lightbourne, Charles Hackie, Thomas Bonar, Elizabeth Lugertie Moomau, Anna Amanda Jane, Ella, Marietta Constance, Hattie, and Lucy.

The last of the sons of John the pioneer is Joseph Sharp, who married Elizabeth Lightner and settled on the homestead, now held by Abram Sharp. The late Peter Sharp, near Frost, was a son of Joseph Sharp. He was a Confederate soldier. His wife was Mary Ann Herron, daughter of Leonard Herron. Three of his sons are Methodist preachers. Oscar is a local preacher; William and Jasper are in the itineracy; Samuel died recently, and Ashby is Constable of Frost District: Alice is Mrs Alexander Kiricofe, and lives in Augusta County. Azelia married Rev C. M. Anderson.

Another son, Henry Sharp, married Caroline Curry,

daughter of the late J. Harvey Curry, of Dunmore, and lives on Douthard's Creek, near Driscol. Their family numbers seven daughters and two sons: Clara, now Mrs Henry Overholt; Docia, now Mrs Warren; Effie, Mrs J. E. Campbell, of Covington; Lizzie, Mrs Mack Ervine; Bertha, Lucy, and Pearl. Gilbert Sharp is at home, a well known machinist. Albert Sharp resides at Marlinton, where he is a well known citizen, and has performed an active part in the construction of improvements.

Thus far we have been able to illustrate to some extent the history of John Sharp, the settler. As was intimated, the great motive that prompted his coming to the head of Knapps Creek was to get land. In this he was successful. His landed possessions reached from the Gibson farm, near Frost, up the West Branch to Armnius Bussard's, near Glade Hill. He had property in the Hills, on Thorny Creek, and on Buffalo Mountain beyond Greenbank, and the most of these lands yet in the possession of his descendants.

He was small in person, blue eyes, light hair, and of florid complexion. He was constantly employed. Mrs Sharp was quiet in all her ways, very diligent in her duties, and patiently met and endured the toils and inconveniences of living in the woods. These persons were pious, and some of the first religious meetings ever held in the vicinity of Frost were at their house.

DAVID HANNAH.

This paper is prepared to pay a tribute to the memo-